

South Carolina is Just Right for Paper Recycling

South Carolina currently has more than 85 companies that are involved with paper recovery and recycling. This includes four paper mills that employ about 2,700 people, while recycling nearly 1 million tons of paper annually.



The state's paper mills turn recycled paper and cardboard into linerboard, tubes, cores and other packaging material. In addition, South Carolina is home to other recycled paper product producers, such as several paper converters and a molded fiber products company.

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Between the Sheets

Recycling office paper and cardboard is easy. Most recycling and waste management companies offer cardboard recycling containers or roll carts for office paper. Recycling paper means saving money on disposal costs, and because of its value, companies often can receive revenue from large quantities of paper sent for recycling.

- Manufacturing using recycled paper creates about 4 jobs per 1,000 tons
- By weight, paper accounts for more than 25% of all recyclable materials collected in SC
- 2,800 tons per day of recycled paper are consumed between 4 paper mills in SC
- Recycling a ton of paper saves 7,000 gallons of water and cuts energy usage by 60 percent

Paper products that can be recycled

White and colored paper

Cardboard

Booklets

Magazines

Newspapers

Paper Bags

Manila Folders

Many packaging companies have a variety of recycled paper products, so that businesses can source recycled content paper for their packaging needs. Product suppliers, who

sell their goods to companies like Walmart, must provide sustainable packaging to meet Walmart's recycled packaging criteria. And buying recycled paper helps maintain market demand, provides jobs, and contributes to the \$13 billion economic impact of recycling in SC.

Green Facts

- SC's four paper mills that use recycled content: Sonoco, RockTenn, KapStone and Carotell Paperboard
- On average, each South Carolinian recycled 132 pounds of paper in 2014
- Cardboard accounts for more than 75% of paper recycled
- For every ton of paper that is recycled, 17 trees, 60,000 gallons of water, 225 kilowatt hours, and 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space are saved
- 40% of all waste going into landfills is paper

Visit www.RecyclingInSC.com or call (803) 737-0400 for a complete list of items that can be recycled or for recyclers in your area.

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